



IFW

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Masahiro NOMURA

Docket No: Q92733

Appln. No.: 10/565,190

Group Art Unit: 2816

Confirmation No.: 9238

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: January 20, 2006

For: MULTI-SUPPLY-VOLTAGE SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

SUBMISSION OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

For the Examiner's convenience, enclosed herewith is a copy of the English translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (IPRP). It is assumed that copies of the cited references as required by §371(c) will be supplied directly by the International Bureau, but if further copies are needed, the undersigned will undertake to provide them upon request.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 12, 2006

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

MIYAZAKI, Teruo
8th Floor, 16th Kowa Bldg.
9-20, Akasaka 1-choime
Minato-ku, Tokyo 1070052
JAPON

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

01 June 2006 (01.06.2006)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

NEC04P108

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/010096

International filing date (day/month/year)

15 July 2004 (15.07.2004)

Applicant

NEC CORPORATION et al

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
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Authorized officer

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference NEC04P108	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/JP2004/010096	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 15 July 2004 (15.07.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 22 July 2003 (22.07.2003)
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237		
Applicant NEC CORPORATION		

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Date of issuance of this report 22 May 2006 (22.05.2006)
Facsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35	Authorized officer <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Masashi Honda</div>
Telephone No. +41 22 338 70 10	

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

NEC04P108

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/010096

International filing date (day/month/year)

15.07.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

22.07.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

NEC CORPORATION

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/010096

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language
_____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/010096

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1, 2, 6-9</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>3-5</u>	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1, 2, 6-9</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>3-5</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-9</u>	YES
	Claims	<u> </u>	NO
2. Citations and explanations:			
<p>Document 1: JP 11-41090 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 12 February 1999; Full text; Figs. 1-21 (Family: none)</p> <p>Document 2: JP 2003-78405 A (Toshiba Co., Ltd.) 14 March 2003; Full text; Figs. 1-15 & US 2003/0042955</p> <p>Document 3: JP 9-148914 A (Sony Corp.) 06 June 1997; Full text; Figs. 1-10 & US 5892385 A</p>			
<p>Claims 1 and 2</p> <p>The invention of claim 1 is a multi-power source semiconductor device characterized by the creation of a variable delay circuit wherein a delay amount varies according to a power supply voltage, which is neither described nor suggested by documents 1-3 listed in the ISR.</p>			
<p>Claim 3</p> <p>The invention of claim 3 does not appear to possess novelty or involve an inventive step based on document 1 cited in the ISR, as document 1 discloses configuration of a multi-power source semiconductor device wherein a voltage level detection circuit that detects the voltage level of power supply voltage and puts out detected voltage level as voltage level detection signal, and a variable delay circuit that varies the delay amount according to the voltage level of power supply voltage in part or in full to a clock signal supplied to each of the plural blocks from a clock generating circuit.</p>			
<p>Claims 4 and 5</p> <p>The inventions of claims 4 and 5 do not appear to possess novelty or involve an inventive step based on documents 2 and 3 cited in the ISR, as documents 2 and 3 disclose configuration of a variable delay circuit wherein a phase synchronization circuit is provided in order to synchronize the phases of clock signals in each block and wherein a delay amount varies according to a power supply voltage in order to compensate for delayed operation of a level shifter that adjusts signal level in said phase synchronization circuit.</p>			

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/010096

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of: V

Claims 6 and 7

None of the documents 1-3 listed in the ISR describes or suggests the inventions described in claims 6 and 7, which are multi-power source semiconductor devices wherein cutoff means are provided such that clock signals generated by clock generating circuits are not supplied to each block circuit and power supply voltage circuits are provided that control power supply voltages to be as low as possible in a normal operable range in a set clock frequency.

Claims 8 and 9

None of the documents 1-3 listed in the ISR describes or suggests the inventions described in claims 8 and 9, which are multi-power source semiconductor devices equipped with power control circuits that control power supply voltage according to operating mode signal that indicates current mode modification detection circuits that detect of operating mode signal modification and establish set values for clock control signals only in a fixed period established by an internal timer.